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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

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DATE: 25X1

SUBJECT Political and Economic Information: Conditions
in Harbin

INFO.

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SUPPLEMENT

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Next Page

25X1

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1. Life in Harbin is like life in a prison; entry and exit are almost impossible, and access to a nearby village depends upon possession of a pass. The cost of living in Harbin is about \$3,000 per day Communist money, which was exchanged three months ago at \$6,000 to US\$1.00, but has now dropped in value to \$10,000 to US\$1.00. It is not known how much money the Communist Army prints, but it is also acquiring US dollars for an undetermined purpose. For US\$100.00 a year a person can live without working. Taxes are high for merchants and low for persons who work with their hands.
2. Korean Communists, who began arriving four months ago, are being used as police. There are 120 displaced persons in Harbin. UNRRA is denied access. Of the 38,000 Russians in Harbin, 6,000 have been refused Soviet papers. Chinese Communists run the city, but any request from the Soviet Consulate is considered a command. Chinese Communists are not guilty of "squeeze", but Russian employees of the Chinese Government indulge in this practice. Public sentiment is generally against the Communist regime.

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